

Practitioner's Docket No. 2793/108

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Weynant et al.
Application No.: 10/522,995 Group No.: 2831
Int'l Filing Date: August 7, 2003 Examiner: Nguyen, C. N.
For: **Optical Fiber Connector Assembly**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

(Information Disclosure Statement--page 1 of 7)

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. SECTIONS 1.8(a) and 1.10*
(When using *Express Mail*, the *Express Mail* label number is **mandatory**;
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Date: May 8, 2006



Timothy M. Murphy, Esq.

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"Since the filing of correspondence under section 1.10 without the Express Mail mailing label thereon is an oversight that can be avoided by the exercise of reasonable care, requests for waiver of this requirement will **not** be granted on petition." Notice of Oct. 24, 1996, 60 Fed. Reg. 56,439, at 56,442.

NOTE: "An information disclosure statement shall be considered by the Office if filed by the applicant:

- (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application;
- (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in section 1.491 in an international application; or
- (3) Before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits, whichever event occurs last." 37 C.F.R. section 1.97(b).

NOTE: "Each individual associated with the filing and prosecution of a patent application has a duty of candor and good faith in dealing with the Office, which includes a duty to disclose to the Office all information known to that individual to be material to patentability as defined in this section." 37 C.F.R. section 1.56(a).

"Individuals associated with the filing or prosecution of a patent application within the meaning of this section are:

- (1) each inventor named in the application;
- (2) each attorney or agent who prepares or prosecutes the application; and
- (3) every other person who is substantively involved in the preparation or prosecution of the application and who is associated with the inventor, with the assignee or with anyone to whom there is an obligation to assign the application." 37 C.F.R. section 1.56(c).

NOTE: The "duty as described in section 1.56 will be met so long as the information in question was cited by the Office or submitted to the Office in the manner prescribed by sections 1.97(b) - (d) and 1.98 before issuance of the patent." Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25 at 17.

WARNING: "No information disclosure statement may be filed in a provisional application." 37 C.F.R. section 1.51(b).

List of Sections Forming Part of This Information Disclosure Statement

The following sections are being submitted for this Information Disclosure Statement:

(check sections forming a part of this statement: discard unused sections and number pages consecutively)

1. ☒ Preliminary Statements
2. ☒ Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (substitute for Form PTO-1449)
3. ☐ Statement as to Information Not Found in Patents or Publications
4. ☐ Identification of Prior Application in Which Listed Information Was Already Cited and for Which No Copies Are Submitted or Need Be Submitted
5. ☐ Cumulative Patents or Publications
6. ☒ Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement
7. ☐ Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items
 - 7A. ☒ EPO Search Report
 - 7B. ☐ English Language Version of EPO Search Report
8. ☐ Translation(s) of Non-English Language Documents
9. ☐ Concise Explanation of English Language Listed Information Items (Optional)
10. ☒ Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

(complete the following, if appropriate)

Sections _____, respectively, have been continued on ADDED PAGE(S).

NOTE: "Once the minimum requirements are met, the examiner has an obligation to consider the information." Notice of April 20, 1992 (1138 O.G. 37-41, 37).

Section 1. Preliminary statements

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications or other information, of which they are aware that they believe may be material to the examination of this application, and in respect of which, there may be a duty to disclose.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. section 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The filing of this information disclosure statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.



Application No.: 10/522,995
Information Disclosure Statement

SECTION 2. FORMS PTO/SB/08A and 08B (formerly Form PTO-1449)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Weynant et al. Attorney Docket: 2793/108
Serial No: 10/522,995 Art Group Unit: N/A
Int'l Filing Date: August 7, 2003 Examiner Name: N/A
Invention: Optical Fiber Connector Assembly

**LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR
APPLICANT'S INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Reference Number	Country Code	Document Number	Publication Date	Patentee or Applicant	Class/Subclass
	AA	EP	0 373 340 B1	Jun. 1990	Quante, AG	G02B 6/38
	AB	DE	27 54 347 C2	Jun. 1979	Licentia (GmbH)	G02B 7/26
	AC	DE	198 30 358 A1	Jan. 1999	Diamond SA	G02B 6/36
	AD	JP	01302209A	Dec. 1989	Shimadzu Corp.	G02B 6/24
	AE	JP	03130706	Jun. 1991	Fujitsu Ltd.	G02B 6/24
	AF	JP	04 006507	Jan. 1992	Furukawa Electric Co. Ltd.	G02B 6/38
	AG	JP	2001/194554	Jul. 2001	Nisshin Kasei: KK; Nippon Telegr. & Teleph. Corp.	G02B 6/38

OTHER DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Reference Number	Author	Title of Article, Title of Journal, Volume Number, Page Numbers, Date
	AH		International Search Report dated 19 February 2004.

Examiner Signature: _____

Date Considered: _____

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation *if not* in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Section 6. Copies of Listed Information Items Accompanying This Statement

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. section 1.98(a)(2) requires that any information disclosure statement filed under section 1.97 shall include: "A legible copy of: (i) Each U.S. and foreign patent; (ii) Each publication or that portion which caused it to be listed; and (iii) All other information or that portion which caused it to be listed, except that no copy of a U.S. patent application need be included . . ."

NOTE: The wording in section 1.98(a)(2)(iii) makes it clear that the requirement to submit a copy of each item of information listed in an information disclosure statement does not apply to the citation of a U.S. patent application. Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 14.

Legible copies of all items listed in Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (substitute for Form PTO-1449) accompany this information statement.

(complete the following, if applicable)

☒ Exception(s) to above:

U.S. patent citations are not included pursuant to the United State Patent and Trademarks Office's September 21, 2004 waiver of the copy requirement in 37 CFR 1.98 for cited pending U.S. patent citations when the patent citations are available in the USPTO's IFW system.

☐ Items in prior application, from which an earlier filing date is claimed for this application, as identified in Section 4.

☐ Cumulative patents or publications identified in Section 5.

Section 7A. Concise Explanation of Non-English Language Listed Information Items in EPO Search Report

The relevance with respect to the following citations listed on Forms PTO/SB/08A and 08B (substitute for PTO-1449):

is submitted on the basis of the accompanying:

(check the appropriate item)

☒ EPO search report that is in the English language,

☐ EPO search report that is not in the English language and that is accompanied also by an English language version of the EPO search report, that issued on the corresponding European patent application.

Section 10. Identification of Person(s) Making This Information Disclosure Statement

The person making this certification is

(check each applicable item)

- (a) ☐ the inventor(s) who signs below

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR

(type name of inventor who is signing)

- (b) ☐ an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. section 1.56(c))

SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR

(type name of inventor who is signing)

- (c) ☒ the practitioner who signs below on the basis of the information:

(check each applicable item)

☐ supplied by the inventor(s).

☐ supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application. (37 C.F.R. section 1.56(c)).

☒ in the practitioner's file.



SIGNATURE OF PRACTITIONER

Timothy M. Murphy, Esq.

(type or print name of practitioner)

125 Summer Street, 11th Floor

P.O. Address

Boston, MA 02110-1618

Reg. No.: 33,198

Tel. No.: (617) 443-9292

Customer No.: 002101